IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**
)	
Mark Lawrence Williams)	Group Art Unit: 2462
)	
Application No.: 10/581,791)	Examiner: LEON T. ANDREWS
)	
Filed: June 6, 2006)	Confirmation No.: 5493
)	
For: A METHOD FOR ESTIMATING A)	
SYSTEM STATE IN A NETWORK)	
)	
)	
)	

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is a full and timely response to the Office Action dated December 9, 2010, the period for response being extended through a Petition for Extension of Time submitted herewith. Claims 1-9 remain pending. For the Examiner's convenience, a complete listing of all pending claims is enclosed herewith.

In numbered paragraph 2 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) by *Mookerjee et al* (U.S. Patent No. 7,180,443) in view of *Eid et al* (U.S. Patent No. 6,502,042), and further in view of *Rui et al.* (US 2004/0220769). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As provided in Figs 1-5, exemplary methods are directed to the efficient decentralization of a particle filter. The method is achieved through a compact representation of a particle population. Each sensor node sends its tracks to neighboring nodes. The neighboring nodes update their respective tracks using the

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